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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Peachtree Corners Receives Tree City USA Recognition**

**PEACHTREE CORNERS, GA, Feb. 25, 2016** – Gwinnett County's newest city, Peachtree Corners, was among 25 Georgia cities recently honored as one of the state's newest "Tree City USA" communities.

The City of Peachtree Corners, which was incorporated July 1, 2012, was recognized February 17 during the 2016 State Arbor Day celebration at Trees Atlanta for its commitment to caring for and managing its public trees. Residents Lorrie Backer, Hillary Wilson, Councilmember Lorri Christopher (Post 5), and city staff members Jennifer Howard and Diana Wheeler represented the city during the event.

"We are very pleased to receive this recognition," said Councilmember Christopher. "Our citizen committee has worked diligently throughout the year to become a Tree City USA community, and I know everyone is very proud of this achievement."

The City of Peachtree Corners adopted a tree ordinance and urban forestry plan and planted a tree at City Hall in celebration of Arbor Day. The tree planting helped the city meet one of the standards necessary to be a Tree City USA for the 2015 year.

To earn a Tree City USA designation cities must meet certain requirements that include:

- Establishing a tree board or department
- Establishing a community tree ordinance
- Meeting specific spending levels for urban forestry
- Planning an Arbor Day celebration.

"Trees clean our air, filter our water, spur economic growth and provide countless opportunities to enjoy recreation, contributing to a better quality of life," said Robert Farris, Director of the Georgia Forestry Commission. "The citizens of Peachtree Corners can take pride

in their community leaders' commitment to trees and forested land – on Arbor Day and every other day of the year."

There are 135 Tree City USAs in Georgia according to a release from the Georgia Forestry Commission. Nationwide there are over 3,400 Tree City USA communities.

Visit <u>www.GaTrees.org</u> for more information about the Georgia Forestry Commission. And for more on the Arbor Day Foundation, visit <u>www.arborday.org</u>.

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